

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

TO: Alton J. Washington
Assistant City Manager

David Cavazos
Deputy City Manager

FROM: Tammy J. Perkins
Acting Water Services Director

Bob Khan
Fire Chief

SUBJECT: FIRE HYDRANT CHECK VALVE PILOT PROGRAM

This report provides the Public Safety and Veterans Issues Subcommittee with information regarding a pilot program to test fire hydrant safety devices designed to prevent tampering of fire hydrants.

THE ISSUE

The City has over 50,000 fire hydrants that may have the potential for unauthorized tampering. To determine the most effective method to protect drinking water infrastructure, the Water Services Department has been requested to evaluate the utility of the Davidson Anti-Terrorism Valves as fire hydrant tampering devices.

OTHER INFORMATION

Staff will work with the Fire Department to equip two fire hydrants with the Davidson Anti-Terrorism Valves. The Water Services and Fire Departments will look at effectiveness, ease of installation, maintenance, operation of fire hydrants, and cost in the evaluation. The evaluation will also be compared to security efforts being performed on other areas of the water distribution system and by other municipalities.

This pilot program will be completed within 18 months. Testing of this device does not prevent staff from following the City's procurement guidelines. If it is determined that this type of device or a similar device could be used, City staff will issue a proposal to solicit qualified vendors following the procurement guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION

This report is for information only.